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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Norbert Wolters et al

Examiner: Arpad F. Kovacs

Serial No.: 09/727,134

Group Art Unit 3671

Filed: 30 November 2000

(Atty. Ref. No. 08874-US)

For: ROW-INSENSITIVE GATHERING DEVICE FOR AN AGRICULTURAL
HEADER

Moline, IL 61265

6 May 2002

First Amendment

The Honorable Commissioner

of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated 6 February 2002, paper no. 6, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

The paragraph on Page 2, lines 5-8

It is an object of the present invention to provide a feeding and picking device which is able to work in fields not planted in rows, which has a simple design, and which can be safely operated.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 14 and 16, and amend claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 20 as follows:

1. A feeding and picking device for feeding and picking a standing agricultural crop wherein individual plants in the crop are provided with plant stalks, the device comprising a rotating feeding element that is rotated about a vertical axis and comprises a body with outwardly extending fingers, the rotating feeding element grasps plant stalks and directs the plant stalks to a picking device which separates